



# THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

## *Catharine Elementary School* **Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

*School Year 2022-2023*

*Revision Date:*

*04/29/2022*

In support of strengthening student academic achievement, Catharine Elementary School receives Title I, Part A funds and therefore must jointly develop with, agree on with, and distribute to parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy that contains information required by section 1116(b) and (c) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The policy establishes the school's expectations for parent and family engagement and describes how the school will implement a number of specific parent and family engagement activities, and it is incorporated into the school's plan submitted to the local educational agency (LEA).

### **Catharine Elementary School agrees to implement the following requirements as outlined by Section 1116:**

Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

- Update the school parent and family engagement policy periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school, distribute it to the parents of participating children, and make the parent and family engagement policy available to the local community.
- Provide full opportunities, to the extent practicable, for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 of the ESSA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the schoolwide program plan under Section 1114(b) of the ESSA is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the local educational agency.
- Be governed by the following statutory definition of parent and family engagement and will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parent and Family Engagement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- (A) Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning
- (B) Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school
- (C) Parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child
- (D) Other activities are carried out, such as those described in Section 1116 of the ESSA

### **DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SCHOOL WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED SCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS**



#### **Section A: JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

Catharine Elementary School will take the following actions to involve parents in an organized, ongoing, and timely manner in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs, including opportunities for regular meetings, if requested by parents, to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their child and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.

*In the Spring of 2022, parents were encouraged to attend a meeting in which they could review and give input into this document, as well as the Compact. Parents were notified of this meeting through school messenger/texts and electronic newsletters sent via google classroom and the school website. We held a zoom video conferencing meeting for input on the 2022-2023 parent documents on April 29, 2022. These documents are reviewed with parents each year in the Spring.*

#### **Section B: ANNUAL TITLE I MEETING**

Catharine Elementary School will take the following actions to conduct an annual meeting, at a convenient time, and encourage and invite all parents of participating children to attend to inform them about the school's Title I program, the nature of the Title I program, the parents' requirements, the school parent and family engagement policy, the schoolwide plan, and the school-parent compact.

*We will hold an Annual Title I meeting on Back to School Night in September 2022. During this meeting, we will inform parents about the Title I program, parent rights and responsibilities under the law, teacher qualifications, school curriculum, working with parents as equal partners and monitoring student achievement, and information about the state academic content standards and assessments. We will also provide and send home a copy of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy and School Parent Compact at that time. Parents will be notified by flyer, Class Dojo, monthly calendars, newsletters and school messenger/texts.*

#### **Section C: COMMUNICATIONS**

Catharine Elementary School will take the following actions to provide parents of participating children with (1) Timely information about the Title I programs, (2) Flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, (3) transportation, child care or home visits, as such services relate to parent and family engagement and may use Title I funds and (4) Information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities, is sent to the parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

*Parents will be given the Parent Engagement Policy and Compact during Back to School Night as well as having them sent home with students in their communication folder. These documents are also uploaded to our website. Parents are notified about various meetings, assemblies, and events during the school year through flyers and monthly calendars sent home with students as well as through school messenger. Meetings, training, and workshops are held at various times of the day to accommodate all families and their schedules. All communications sent home are in the family home language. Any translation can be made available upon request.*

#### **Section D: SCHOOL-PARENT COMPACT**

Catharine Elementary School will take the following actions to jointly develop with parents of participating children a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards.

*In the Spring of 2022, parents were encouraged to attend a meeting in which they could review and give input into this document, as well as the Compact. Parents were notified of this meeting through school messenger/ texts and electronic newsletters sent via google classroom and school website. We held a zoom video conferencing meeting for input on the 2022-2023 parent documents on April 29, 2022. These documents are reviewed with parents each year in the Spring.*

#### **Section E: RESERVATION OF FUNDS**

If applicable, Catharine Elementary School will take the following actions to involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A schools in decisions about how the 1 percent of Title I, Part A funds reserved for parent and family engagement is spent by:



*In the winter, parents are encouraged to attend a budget review meeting. At this time, parents can give input into how they would like to see the parent involvement funds be spent. The Parent Involvement funds will be used to purchase the SISL position and some summer bridge books to prevent the summer slide as well as various books to give to parents who attend workshops and training throughout the year. This year, our Winter Parent Meeting was held on January 28, 2022.*

#### **Section F: COORDINATION OF SERVICES**

Catharine Elementary School will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent and family engagement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

*Staff and key members of the schools leadership teams offer workshops/activities to support and encourage parents to participate in the education of thier children.*

#### **Section G: BUILDING CAPACITY OF PARENTS**

Catharine Elementary School will build the parents' capacity for strong parent and family engagement to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following:

- Providing parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and
- Materials and training to help parents to work with their child to improve their child's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parent and family engagement
- Providing assistance to parents of participating children, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following:
  - The challenging State's academic standards
  - The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments
  - The requirements of Title I, Part A
  - How to monitor their child's progress
  - How to work with educators to improve the achievement of their child

*Various workshops and training are offered to parents throughout the school year. Some of the topics being covered are Parent portal, Literacy nights and Lexia night. During the Annual Title I meeting, held each September, we share with parents the requirements of Title I, Part A, the State's academic standards and local academic assessments. There are three report card conferences throughout the school year, November, February, and April, with an evening conference offered each time. During these conferences, teachers will discuss with parents how to monitor their child's progress and update parents on the curriculum in use.*

#### **Section H: BUILDING CAPACITY OF SCHOOL STAFF**

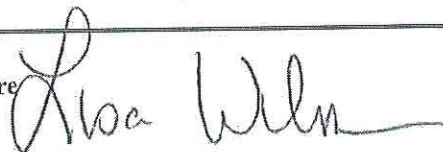
Catharine Elementary School will provide training to educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school by:

*Surveys are made available to parents during all events, meetings, and conferences. The results of the parent surveys are tallied and shared with staff during Professional developments throughout the school year. In August, staff will be trained on how to communicate and work with parents as equal partners.*

Catharine Elementary School will provide other reasonable support for parent and family engagement activities under Section 1116 as parents may request by:

*Hosting multi-lingual parent workshops  
Providing opportunities to increase parent volunteerism  
Providing monthly instructional resources to help parents understand core instructional programs*

Principal's Signature



*Lisa Wilmer*

Date Signed

6-7-22

*Lisa Wilmer 8/26/22*



# THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

## *Catharine Elementary School* **School-Parent Compact**

**School Year 2022-2023**

**Revision Date:**

**04/29/2022**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

### **JOINTLY DEVELOPED**

*The parents, students, and staff of Joseph Catharine partnered together to develop this school-parent compact for achievement. Parents suggested ways to increase parent volunteering, and the use of Class Dojo as a school-wide method of communication. Parents were encouraged to attend annual revision meetings held in the Spring each year and to review the compact and make suggestions based on student needs and school improvement goals. This meeting was held on 4/29/2022 via Google Meets. Parents were also encouraged to participate in the School Family Engagement survey that is also used as a tool to collect parent feedback regarding the current Title I programs, policies and family engagement.*

To understand how working together can benefit your child, it is first important to understand the district's and school's goals for student academic achievement.

**The Board of Education's updated Goals and Guardrails are available on the School District Website at [www.philasd.org](http://www.philasd.org).**

### **Catharine Elementary School GOALS**

*At least 60% of Kindergarten students and 75% of 1st and 2nd-grade students will make at least one academic year's worth of growth as evidenced by their independent reading levels from quarter 1 to quarter 4.  
No more than 25% of 3rd-grade students will score below basic on the 3rd grade PSSA-ELA.  
Increase the number of 4th-grade students scoring math proficiency on PSSA to at least 35% and 5th grade to at least 20%.  
At least 70% of Kindergarten students and 50% of 1st and 2nd-grade students will score at target by the Spring AIMSweb assessment.*

To help your child meet the district and school goals, the school, you, and your child will work together:

### **SCHOOL/TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Catharine Elementary School will:

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*Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards*  
*Hold parent-teacher conferences three times per year to discuss student progress with parents.*  
*Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress including report cards each marking period and interim reports at the midpoint of each marking period.*  
*Provide parents reasonable access to staff.*  
*Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities*

**PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

We, as parents, will:

*Making sure that homework is completed.*  
*Volunteering in my child's classroom.*  
*Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my child's education.*  
*Promoting positive use of my child's extracurricular time.*  
*Staying informed about my child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.*  
*Monitoring student attendance*

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

*Do my homework every day and ask for help when I need it.*  
*Read at least 20 minutes every day outside of school time.*  
*Give to my parents all notices and information received by me from my school every day.*  
*Bring a book to school every day for morning reading.*  
*Come to school every day prepared to learn.*

**COMMUNICATION ABOUT STUDENT LEARNING:**

*Catharine Elementary School is committed to frequent two-way communication with families about children's learning. Some of the ways you can expect us to reach you are:*

*Joseph Catharine is committed to frequent two-way communication with families about children's learning. Some of the ways you can expect us to reach you are:*  
*Interim Reports*  
*Parent Portal*  
*Text Message*  
*Class Dojo*  
*Newsletter*  
*Website*  
*Phone Calls*  
*Fliers*  
*Emails*  
*Parent Conferences*

**ACTIVITIES TO BUILD PARTNERSHIPS:**

*Catharine Elementary School offers ongoing events and programs to build partnerships with families.*

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*School Advisory Councils*

*Workshops/ Training*

*September-Open House*

*October-Character Day Parade*

*November- Math Night*

*December-Family Game Night (Instructional Focus)*

*February-Literacy Night*

*April-Multi-Cultural Festivals*

